



Reimbursement Policy

Effective Date.....02/01/2022
Reimbursement Policy NumberR37

Advanced Practice Health Care Providers

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Related Policies

- [R30 – Evaluation and Management Services](#)
- [MHCPCS – Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System \(HCPCS\) National Level II Modifiers](#)
- [MRG – Modifier Reference Guide](#)

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

Reimbursement policies are intended to supplement certain **standard** benefit plans. Please note, the terms of an individual's particular benefit plan document [Group Service Agreement (GSA), Evidence of Coverage, Certificate of Coverage, Summary Plan Description (SPD) or similar plan document] may differ significantly from the standard benefit plans upon which a reimbursement policy is based. For example, an individual's benefit plan document may contain specific language which contradicts the guidance outlined in a reimbursement policy. In the event of a conflict, an individual's benefit plan document **always supersedes** the information in a reimbursement policy. Reimbursement terms in agreements with participating health care providers may also supersede the information in a reimbursement policy. Proprietary information of Cigna. Copyright ©2021 Cigna

Overview

This policy provides billing requirements for reimbursement of professional, non-surgical services provided by Advanced Practice Providers (APP) when submitted on a CMS 1500 claim form.

Reimbursement Policy

Cigna will reimburse Advanced Practice Providers (APP) for eligible non-surgical services when they are reported directly by the APP using the APP's National Provider Identifier (NPI) number.

Advanced Practice Providers who do not have an NPI number (or are ineligible to bill directly with an NPI) should report non-surgical services appended with modifier SA when the services are submitted by a supervising physician on behalf of the APP using the physician's NPI number. Eligible services rendered by an APP and submitted with an SA modifier will be reimbursed at 85% (or other allowed amount) of the supervising physician's fee schedule.

All Advanced Practice Providers should act within the scope of practice of their license and/or certification and in accordance with state law in which the license/certification is held and in which the APP practices.

General Background

Advanced Practice Health Care Providers are health care professionals who are clinically trained and certified to provide preventive and acute health care services, sometimes under the supervision of a licensed physician. Practitioners may perform physical examinations, diagnose and treat acute or chronic problems, order and interpret laboratory tests or imaging studies, prescribe and manage medications and make referrals to specialists

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or other services in order to attend to a patient's medical needs. These services are furnished by a practitioner other than the supervising physician. The physician is not required to be physically present with the patient at the time that services are rendered, however the physician may provide direct supervision in the event that assistance is necessary.

Cigna considers Advanced Practice Health Care Providers to include but not limited to the following providers:

Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (ACNP)
Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (AGACNP)
Adult Gerontological Nurse Practitioner Certified (AGNPC)
Advanced Nurse Practitioner (ANP)
Advanced Practice Nurse Practitioner (APNP)
Advanced Practice Professional Nurse (APPN)
Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN)
Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner (ARNP)
Certified Family Nurse Practitioner (CFNP)
Certified Nurse Practitioner (CNP)
Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS)
Certified Pediatric Nurse Practitioner (CPNP)
Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner (CRNP)
Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP)
Gerontological Nurse Practitioner (GNP)
Neonatal Nurse Practitioner (NNP)
Nurse Practitioner (NP)
Physician Assistant (PA)
Physician Assistant Certified (PAC)
Pediatric Nurse Practitioner (PNP)
Registered Nurse Clinical Specialist (RNCS)
Registered Nurse Practitioner (RNP)
Women's Health Nurse Practitioner (WHNP)

References

1. American Medical Association. Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) ©2020 Professional Edition.
2. Health Care Procedure Coding System, National Level II Medicare Codes [Los Angeles, CA: Practice Management Information Corporation (PMIC), ©2020], (p. 442).
3. Optum360, Understanding Modifiers 2020 (USA: Optum360, LLC ©2020), (p. 152).

Policy History/Update

Date	Change/Update
12/01/2021	Notification for policy effective date 02/01/2022.

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